## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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**EXDIS** 

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF SUBJ: TALK WITH SIILASVUO JULY 14

- 1. I CALLED ON GENERAL SIILASVUO TO SEE HOW HE WAS VIEWING EVENTS IN LEBANON. WE DISCUSSED RECENT UNIFIL DEVELOPMENTS, UPCOMING VISITS BY UN SECRETARIAL OFFICIALS AS WELL AS LEBANON IN GENERAL.
- 2. SIILASVUO SAID THAT JULY 12 DETENTION OF UNIFIL TROOPS BY PALESTINIANS IN TYRE WAS INCIDENT CAUSED BY REJECTIONISTS FOR WHICH ARAFAT HAD SINCERELY APOLOGIZED. HE CONSIDERED THIS INCIDENT CLOSED NOW. ON ANOTHER ISSUE, HE SAID THAT FRENCH UNIFIL FORCES WERE VERY ANGRY AT SHIDIAK'S MEN FOR FIRING AT THEM FROM TIME TO TIME. FRENCH HAVE WARNED THAT NEXT TIME THEY WILL "SHOOT TO KILL."
- 3. REVIEWING UNIFIL'S CURRENT SITUATION, SIILASVUO THOUGHT THAT IT HAD DONE WELL IN CONTAINING INFILTRATION ("ARAFAT HAS BEHAVED PRETTY WELL") BUT STILL HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO COMPLETELY FULFILL ITS MISSION BY TAKING OVER THE ENCLAVE AREAS. CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS IS A MATTER OF PRIORITY AS PLO COULD WELL SAY THAT UNIFIL IS CONTROLLING PLO BUT HAS NOT TAKEN OVER CHRISTIAN AREAS. HIS NEXT MEETING WITH EITAN WILL BE ON JULY 20 AT WHICH TIME HE AND ERSKINE PLAN TO PRESENT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR MOVING INTO AREAS IN THE ENCLAVES. AS FAR AS SIILASVUO KNEW BEGIN HAD NEVER REPLIED TO SYG LETTER OF JUNE 20 ON THIS SUBJECT.

- 4. SIILASVUO CONFIRMED HIS OWN TRAVEL PLANS--HE WILL GO TO DAMASCUS MONDAY JULY 17 FOR WALDHEIM'S TALKS WITH SYRIANS. THEN GUYER, JONAH AND HE WILL GO TO AMMAN FOR TALKS WITH JORDANIANS. ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE WAS NOT COMPLETELY SURE OF PURPOSE OF AMMAN STOP, HE ASSUMED IT RELATED TO SYG'S IDEA OF CONVENING MEETING OF ALL PARTIES ON MIDDLE EAST. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE SAID HE THOUGHT THIS IDEA WAS A NON-STARTER AND THAT SYG WAS BEING BADLY ADVISED. HE POINTEDLY NOTED THAT URQUHART WAS STILL ON LEAVE AND SAID THAT HE KNEW URQUHART WAS NOT IN FAVOR OF IDEA.
- 5. I ASKED HIM IF HE HAD ANY THOUGHTS ABOUT LEBANON AND ITS FUTURE. HE SHOOK HIS HEAD AND SAID HE REALLY HAD NO USEFUL COMMENT. HE NOTED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT SOME DESPARATE PEOPLE HAD RAISED QUESTION OF POSSIBLE UN PEACE-KEEPING ROLE. THIS WOULD BE AN IMPOSSIBLE JOB AND HE WAS GLAD THAT NEW YORK WAS NOT CONSIDERING IT AS FAR AS HE KNEW.
- 6. COMMENT: DESPITE DAILY STORIES ABOUT UNIFIL SKIRMISHES WITH PALESTINIANS AND CHRISTIANS, SIILASVUO SEEMED SATISFIED THAT UNIFIL WAS DOING ITS JOB WELL AND HAD NO MAJOR PROBLEMS EXCEPT THE OUTSTANDING ISSUE OF ENTRY INTO THE ENCLAVES. HE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY USE HIS MEETING WITH EITAN ON JULY 20 TO PRESS FOR SPECIFIC PROGRESS. KRUSE

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Subject: TALK WITH SIILASVUO JULY 14

TAGS: PORG, MARR, IS, LE, XF, UNSC, UNIFIL, (SIILASVUO, ENSIO), (KRUSE, DONALD)

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